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Highlights

Hog & Pig Inventory
Cold Storage
Agricultural Prices
Poultry
Livestock Slaughter

The Keystone Ag Digest may be found on the Internet at the following address: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/pa/agdigest.htm>

HOG & PIG INVENTORY

There were 1,080,000 hogs and pigs on **Pennsylvania** farms on December 1, 2002. This estimated inventory was up 20,000 head from September 2002 and December one year ago. Market hog inventory, at 955,000 head increased 20,000 head since September 2002 and up 25,000 head from December 2001. Breeding stock inventory, at 125,000 head, remained the same as September 2002 and but down 5,000 head from December 2001. The September-November 2002 pig crop totaled 477,000 head, a increase of 11,000 head from June-August 2002 pig crop and down 7,000 head from September-November of a year ago. There were 53,000 sows farrowed during the quarter, down 2,000 head from the previous year. The average litter rate increased 9.00 pigs per litter which is an increase of 0.20 pigs per litter from September 2002 and December 2001.

Pennsylvania hog farmers intend to have 53,000 sows farrow during the December 2002-February 2003 period up 2,000 head from a year earlier. Farrowing intentions for the March 2003-May 2003 quarter are estimated

at 53,000 head, 1,000 head less than actually farrowed in the in same quarter of 2002.

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2002, was 58.9 million head. This was 1 percent below December 1, 2001, and 2 percent below September 1, 2002. **Breeding inventory**, at 6.01 million head, was down 3 percent from December 1, 2001, and down 1 percent from last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 52.9 million head, was 1 percent below last year and 2 percent below last quarter.

The September-November 2002 U.S. pig crop, at 24.9 million head, was 2 percent less than 2001, and 1 percent less than 2000. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.82 million head, 2 percent below last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 47 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs per litter was 8.83 pigs saved per litter for the September-November 2002 period, compared to 8.82 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.50 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 9.00 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.81 million sows farrow during the December 2002-February 2003 quarter, 1 percent below the actual farrowings during the same period in 2002, and 2 percent above 2001. Intended farrowings for March-May 2003, at 2.85 million sows, are 3 percent below the same period in 2002, and 1 percent below 2001.

The number of hog operations with hogs totaled 75,350 during 2002, down 7 percent from last year and 13 percent below 2000. Places with 2,000 or more hogs on hand accounted for 10 percent of the operations and 75 percent of the inventory. This is the first time operations with inventories over 2,000 head have controlled 75 percent or more of the total inventory. The number of operations with over 5,000 head of inventory, at 2,258, accounted for 53 percent of the total inventory, up from 52 percent a year ago. The total number of hogs under contract, owned by these over 5,000 head operations but raised by contractees, accounted for 33 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, unchanged from last year.

HOGS & PIGS: NUMBER ON FARMS, DECEMBER 1, SOWS FARROWING & PIG CROP, 2001-2002

Item	Pennsylvania			United States		
	2001	2002	2002/01	2001	2002	2002/01
	(000) Head		Percent	(000) Head		Percent
Inventory - December 1:						
All Hogs & Pigs	1,060	1,080	102	59,804	58,943	99
Kept For Breeding	130	125	96	6,209	6,012	97
Market	930	955	103	53,594	52,931	99
Market Hogs & Pigs By Weight						
Under 60 Pounds	365	340	93	19,908	19,461	98
60-119 Pounds	235	250	106	12,924	12,919	100
120-179 Pounds	180	185	103	10,744	10,736	100
180 Pounds and Over	150	180	120	10,018	9,815	98
Sows Farrowing:						
December ¹ - February	51	53	104	2,748	2,836	103
March-May	52	54	104	2,870	2,943	103
June-August	54	53	98	2,878	2,833	98
September-November	55	53	96	2,889	2,817	98
Pig Crop:						
December ¹ - February	449	466	104	23,963	24,794	103
March-May	463	470	102	25,509	25,959	102
June-August	475	466	98	25,539	25,114	98
September-November	484	477	99	25,492	24,892	98
	Number			Number		
Pigs Per Litter:						
December ¹ - February	8.80	8.80	100	8.72	8.74	100
March-May	8.90	8.70	98	8.89	8.82	99
June-August	8.80	8.80	100	8.87	8.87	100
September-November	8.80	9.00	102	8.82	8.83	100

¹ December preceding year.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS, SELECTED COMMODITIES, DECEMBER 2002

Commodity	Unit	Pennsylvania			United States		
		Dec 2001	Nov 2002	Dec 2002 ¹	Dec 2001	Nov 2002	Dec 2002 ¹
		<i>Dollars</i>					
Corn	Bu.	2.35	2.91	2.91	1.98	2.27	2.29
Wheat, winter ²	Bu.	-	-	-	2.78	4.16	3.83
Oats	Bu.	2.14	2.25	2.09	1.92	1.90	1.81
Barley ²	Bu.	-	-	-	2.21	2.79	2.85
Hay, dry all	Ton	119.00	130.00	137.00	95.60	93.60	92.60
dry alfalfa	Ton	136.00	150.00	154.00	105.00	101.00	100.00
dry other	Ton	109.00	119.00	128.00	73.40	75.40	74.70
Apples, fresh use	Lb.	.190	.212	.242	.231	.268	.263
Potatoes	Cwt.	8.15	9.20	9.20	6.66	6.25	6.91
Cows, slaughter	Cwt.	38.50	34.00	35.70	36.00	33.00	34.20
Steers and heifers	Cwt.	63.10	63.70	68.80	68.50	72.00	74.80
Calves	Cwt.	114.00	102.00	107.00	101.00	88.20	93.60
Barrows and gilts	Cwt.	32.50	27.40	30.00	33.80	28.10	30.40
Sows	Cwt.	24.00	20.70	22.80	25.10	20.40	22.80
Eggs ³	Doz.	.450	.600	.600	.410	.563	.519
Milk, fluid grade	Cwt.	14.90	13.90	-	13.50	11.90	11.90
manufactured grade	Cwt.	12.60	10.50	-	12.50	10.60	10.50
all	Cwt.	14.90	13.90	14.00	13.50	11.80	11.90
Milk cows ⁴	Head	-	-	-	-	-	-

¹ Preliminary. ² Pennsylvania price not published on monthly basis, average price is published annually. ³ Market (table) eggs, including eggs sold retail by the producer. ⁴ Quarterly (Jan., Apr., July, Oct.). ⁵ Insufficient data to establish price.

DECEMBER FARM PRICES RECEIVED INDEX DOWN 1 POINT FROM LAST MONTH

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in December is 97, based on 1990-92=100, down 1 point (1.0 percent) from the November index. Lower prices for wheat, lettuce, broccoli, and eggs, more than offset higher prices for cattle, tomatoes, hogs, and strawberries. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affects the overall index. Decreased marketings of cattle, soybeans, grapes, and corn offset increased marketings of wheat, tobacco, milk, and oranges.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is 4 points (4.3 percent) above December, 2001. Higher prices for soybeans, wheat, corn, and cattle more than offset lower prices for broilers, hogs, lettuce, calves, and dry beans.

The Food Commodities Index declined 1 point (1.0 percent) from last month to 96, but is 2.1 percent above November last year.

Food Grains: The December index, at 119, is down 2.5 percent from the previous month but is up 31 percent from December 2001. The all wheat price, at \$3.93 per bushel, is down 32 cents from the November price but \$1.05 above last December.

Feed Grains & Hay: The December index is 105, up 1.9 percent from last month and 14 percent above December 2001. The corn price, at \$2.29 per bushel, is up 2 cents from November and 31 cents above last year's December price. The all hay price, at \$92.60 per ton, is down \$1.00 from last month and \$3.00 below December 2001.

Dairy Products: The December index, at 91, is up 1.1 percent from November but 12 percent below December 2001. The December all milk price of \$11.90 per cwt is up 10 cents from November but down \$1.60 from last year. The fluid grade milk price is unchanged from last month but the manufactured grade milk price is down slightly from the previous month.

U.S. PARITY PRICES FOR FARM PRODUCTS ¹

Commodity	Unit	Dec 2001	Nov 2002	Dec 2002
<i>Dollars</i>				
Wheat	Bu.	9.58	9.65	9.67
Corn	Bu.	6.54	6.53	6.55
Tobacco, PA seedleaf, Type 41	Lb.	3.09	3.13	3.14
All milk, sold to plants ..	Cwt.	31.90	33.20	33.20
Wool	Lb.	1.64	1.58	1.59
Barley	Bu.	6.39	6.42	6.43
Oats	Bu.	3.74	3.98	3.99
Potatoes	Cwt.	13.50	13.60	13.60
Rye	Bu.	5.45	5.68	5.69
Soybeans	Bu.	14.20	14.30	14.30
Apples, for fresh use ²	Lb.	.485	.482	.483
Beef cattle	Cwt.	157.00	159.00	160.00
Calves	Cwt.	207.00	212.00	212.00
Hogs	Cwt.	102.00	103.00	103.00
Lambs	Cwt.	172.00	180.00	180.00
Sheep	Cwt.	71.90	76.20	76.30
Eggs	Doz.	1.54	1.56	1.56
Turkeys, live	Lb.	.951	.970	.972

¹ Parity prices as computed currently using base prices in effect and indexes for month indicated. These parity prices are the legally applicable parity prices for the following calendar month. ² Equivalent packinghouse-door returns for apples for Washington and Oregon, equivalent first delivery point returns for California, and price at point of first sale for other states.

COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS **NOVEMBER 30, 2002**

Apples in cold storage reported by cold storage warehouses for Pennsylvania totaled 5,083,000 bushels on November 30, 2002, compared to 6,689,000 bushels on November 30, 2001. The three varieties with the largest fresh market and processing reported stocks in bushels were: York with 1,751,000; Rome with 987,000; and Golden Delicious with 978,000 bushels.

Total apple stocks in Pennsylvania totaled 213,524,000 pounds on November 30, 2002, compared to 280,961,000 pounds on November 30, 2001. Pear stocks in cold storage decreased from previous year's stocks of 1,306,000 pounds to 1,170,000 pounds on November 30, 2002.

Nationally, frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on November 30, 2002, were greater than year earlier levels for poultry, red meat, and orange juice concentrate. Cooler stocks of pecans were also above last year.

Butter stocks were 17 percent below October 2002 but 135 percent above a year ago.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were 4 percent below October 31, 2002, but 14 percent above November 2001. Frozen pork stocks were 5 percent below last month but 8 percent above last year. Stocks of pork bellies were 74 percent above last month but 50 percent below November 2001 stocks.

Total frozen poultry supplies on November 30, 2002, were down 24 percent from last month but were 19 percent above last years' level. Total stocks of chicken were down 8 percent from last month and were 16 percent above last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers decreased 47 percent from last month but were 27 percent above last year.

STOCKS IN COLD STORAGE, UNITED STATES

Commodity	Nov 30, 2001	Oct 31, 2002	Nov 30, 2002
(000) Lbs.			
Butter	57,916	164,640	136,267
Cheese, total natural	631,293	720,392	697,974
Eggs, frozen	13,859	13,085	11,204
Poultry, total frozen	952,397	1,495,099	1,134,401
Chicken	684,017	861,284	796,076
Turkeys	260,029	624,940	330,739
Fruits, frozen	1,155,569	1,180,359	1,110,202
Fruit juices, frozen	1,726,409	1,709,167	1,751,154
Vegetables, total frozen	2,254,229	2,329,648	2,239,586
Potatoes, total frozen	1,297,377	1,252,157	1,214,549
Meats, total frozen	880,948	1,038,867	1,002,102
Beef, total frozen	427,550	525,167	514,987
Pork, total frozen	432,732	489,802	465,350

PENNSYLVANIA APPLES IN COLD STORAGE, NOVEMBER 30, 2002

Variety	November 30, 2001					November 30, 2002				
	Fresh Market ¹		Processing		Total	Fresh Market ¹		Processing		Total
	Reg.	C.A.	Reg.	C.A.		Reg.	C.A.	Reg.	C.A.	
	<i>(1,000) Bushels</i>									
York	26	2	1,226	526	1,780	9	0	1,125	617	1,751
Stayman	65	16	32	32	145	14	1	42	8	65
Rome	77	62	434	459	1,032	66	54	341	526	987
Red Delicious ...	388	443	169	81	1,081	174	350	75	94	693
Golden Delicious	137	162	688	538	1,525	87	125	262	504	978
Jonathan	7	0	59	0	66	2	0	29	0	31
McIntosh	33	0	5	0	38	9	2	0	0	11
Cortland	9	0	2	0	11	3	0	11	0	14
Other ²	197	109	571	134	1,011	163	86	184	120	553
Total	939	794	3,186	1,770	6,689	527	618	2,069	1,869	5,083

¹ Includes total quantities on hand; graded and ungraded, packed or loose on the last day of the month specified. ² Includes miscellaneous varieties and some quantities of above varieties not identified.

APPLE & PEAR STOCKS IN COLD STORAGE, PENNSYLVANIA & UNITED STATES, NOVEMBER 30, 2002

Commodity	All Warehouse Stocks		
	November 30, 2001	October 31, 2002	November 30, 2002
(1,000) Lbs.			
PENNSYLVANIA			
APPLES:			
Regular Storage	173,284	132,143	109,040
Controlled Atmosphere	107,677	90,293	104,484
Total Apples	280,961	222,436	213,524
PEARS:			
Bartletts	6	34	0
Other Varieties	1,300	1,640	1,170
Total Pears	1,306	1,674	1,170
UNITED STATES			
APPLES:			
Regular Storage	1,141,115	1,400,871	1,006,505
Controlled Atmosphere	3,834,202	3,847,680	3,932,628
Total Apples	4,975,317	5,248,551	4,939,133
PEARS:			
Bartletts	28,749	61,084	25,500
Other Varieties	383,482	433,730	359,021
Total Pears	412,231	494,814	384,521

MONTHLY POULTRY SUMMARY

Item	Unit	Pennsylvania			United States		
		Nov 2001	Oct 2002	Nov 2002	Nov 2001	Oct 2002	Nov 2002
Layers	Thous.	23,950	23,727	23,989	337,915	338,036	338,593
Eggs Per 100 Layers	Number	2,267	2,348	2,276	2,128	2,192	2,140
Eggs Produced	Million	543	557	546	7,191	7,410	7,246
Chick Hatch-Egg Type . . .	Thous.	4,121	3,569	3,544	32,081	32,044	31,078
Chick Hatch-Broiler Type	Thous.	11,865	12,538	11,345	702,607	720,310	690,024
Poults Placed	Thous.	-	-	-	24,226	23,811	23,987

EGG PRODUCTION

Egg production in **Pennsylvania** during November 2002 totaled 546 million, up 1 percent from the 543 million produced the same month last year. There was an average of 24.0 million layers on hand during the month, up less than 1 percent from November 2001. Average production per 100 layers totaled 2,276 eggs, compared with 2,267 eggs during the previous November.

Egg-type chicks hatched totaled 3.54 million in November, 14 percent less than the 4.12 million one year ago. Cumulative egg-type hatch for 2002 is 47.0 million, down 20 percent from those hatched during the same period last year. There were 11.3 million broiler-type chicks hatched during the month, 4 percent less than November 2001. Cumulative broiler-type hatch for 2002, at 141.1 million chicks, was down slightly from the 141.6 million hatched January through November 2001.

United States - Egg production in the United States totaled 7.25 billion during November 2002, up 1 percent from last year. The total number of layers during the month averaged 339 million, up slightly from the total average number of layers during November 2001.

November egg-type chicks hatched totaled 31.1 million, down 3 percent from November 2001. Broiler-type hatch, at 690 million chicks, was down 2 percent from November 2001. A total of 24.0 million turkey poults was placed during the month, down 1 percent from November 2001.

COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER, NOV 2002

Specie	Unit	Pennsylvania	United States
Red Meat Prod .	Mil. Lbs.	109.2	3,907
Cattle	Thous. Hd.	90.3	2,861
	Mil. Lbs. Live	115.0	3,606
Calves	Thous. Hd.	17.2	91
	Mil. Lbs. Live	5.6	28
Hogs	Thous. Hd.	230.6	8,656
	Mil. Lbs. Live	58.1	2,315
Sheep & Lambs	Thous. Hd.	6.8	271
	Mil. Lbs. Live	.7	36

COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

Commercial red meat production in the state during November 2002 totaled 109.2 million pounds, dressed weight basis, up 8 percent from November 2001. Beef production, at 115.0 million pounds live weight, was up 11 percent from November 2001. Total head slaughtered was 90,300. Live weight averaged 1,273 pounds, a decrease of 7 pounds from last year. Veal production was 5.6 million pounds live weight, 4 percent more than a year ago. Calf slaughter of 17,200 head was up 15 percent; average live weight decreased 38 pounds to 324 pounds. Pork production, at 58.1 million pounds live weight, was up 9 percent from November 2001. Total head slaughtered was 230,600, up 10 percent from last year. Average live weight decreased 3 pounds to 252 pounds. Lamb and mutton production was 731,000 pounds live weight, up 44 percent from a year ago. The number slaughtered was 6,800, up 45 percent from November of last year. The average live weight was unchanged from last year.

**PENNSYLVANIA AGRICULTURAL
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